Purchase of Chevrolet alongwith skid tester by CRRI

4837. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state·

(a) whether it is a fact that a Chevrolet alongwith Skid Tester, valuing about Rs. 50 lakhs, has been purchased in the Central Road Research Institute of C.S.I.R.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no research has been done so far on the machine and it is lying idle since its purchase; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) A Skid Tester with an on-board computer on a Chevrolet Van, as an integral system, has been purchased for Rs. 33,84,421.50.

(b) The equipment is being utilized for carrying out studies on surface characteristics ofp avements and pavement evaluation aspect of riding quality and functional serviceability. The Tester has been used for data collection on skid resistance of load pavements on 17 sections in Delhi area. About 500 Kms have been covered using the Tester for getting requisite inputs for R&D work of the Institute.

(c) Does not arise.

Purchase of a Lacroix Deflec Tragraph BL-IM-0014 by Central Road Research Institute

4838. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Road Research Institute of CSIR has purchased a Lacroix Deflec Tragraph BL-IM-0014 on 1st April, 1990 costing more than Rs. 80 lakhs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no scientists knows how to operate the machine; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for purchasing the machine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The Deflectograph has been procured by the Institute at a cost of Rs. 46,27,228.00 for non-destructive testing of the pavements for structural adequacy under varying loading conditions to facilitate structural upgrading of pavements.

(b) No, Sir. Four Scientists have undergone training for the operation of the equipment, routine maintenance and use of software for overlay designs. It is proposed to impart in-house training to some more scientists.

(c) Does not arise.

Installation of BPL System in Central Road Research Institute

4839. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a scandal in installation of BPL system in the Central Road Research Institute of CSIR valuing more than Rs. 10 lakhs.

(b) whether it is also a fact that system is not functioning properly as compared to previous MTNL Board; and

(c) if so, the number of external and internal phones provided to divisions/sections?